tions for upgradation of five medical colleges in different Sates which did not include West Bengal. The Govt. after careful consideration of all aspects of the matter, including the availability of resources, the likely impact of such a scheme and constitutional responsibility of the Central Government in this regard, have decided not to include this scheme in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Inclusion of nickel in the list of toxic metals

1403. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether nickel is included in the list of toxic metals; if not the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government propose to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteraiton Act for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA : (a) to (c) Nickle has not been classified as a poisonous metal under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

The entire issue of occurrence of nickle in food vis-a-vis laying down its limit has been recently examined by the experts, who have recommended that the Indian Council for Medical Research should evaluate the scientific evidence of toxicity of nickel when consumed orally and advise the Government on the need for setting standard for nickel content in food articles. Final view on the matter would be taken after considering the report of ICMR.

Legislation to ban tobacco products in public places

1404. DR. ABRAR AHMED :
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to enact any comprehensive legislation to ban cigarette smoking in public places and advertisements of all tobacco related products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the proposed comprehensive legislation, it is intended *inter-alia* to :

(i) impose a ban on the sale of tobacco or tobacco products within a distance of 100 metres from schools, educational institutions, hospitals and medical institutions.

(ii) prohibit smoking in certain selected public places like hospitals, educational institutions, conference rooms, domestic air flights, A/C Chair Cars/sleeper coaches, suburban trains, public transport etc.

(iii) impose a complete ban on all forms of advertisements in respect of tobacco related products after studying the implications vis-a-vis the experience of other countries of the world in this regard.

(iv) prescribe statutory warning on all packages of tobacco and tobacco products in appropriate forms, size and language to make them prominent and effective.

(c) Does not arise.

Total bed strength in Government Hospitals

1405. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total bed strength in Government hospitals (both State and Union Government); and

(b) what are the State-wise details in both urban and rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) and (b) As on 1-1-91, there are a total number of

415628 beds in Government Hospitals (both State/Union Government). State/U.T.-wise break-up is given in the attached statement See below). The Rural/Urban breakup of the same is not available.

Statement

Number of beds in Government Hospitals as on 1-1-1991

Sl. No.	State/UTs.	Beds
1.	Andhra Pradesh (1-1-86)	25251
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1091
3.	Assam (1-1-90)	11678
4.	Bihar (1-1-88)	22553
5.	Goa	1808
6.	Gujarat (1-1-89)	16578
7.	Haryana	4771
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3769
9.	Jammu & Kashmir (1-1-89)	8062
10.	Karnataka	26424
11.	Kerala	26474
12.	Madhya Pradesh (1-1-89)	22103
13.	Maharashtra (1-1-90)	62684
14.	Manipur	1360
15.	Meghalaya (1-1-90)	1094
16.	Mizoram	644
17.	Nagaland	1114
18.	Orissa	12576
19.	Punjab (1-4-90)	11133
20.	Rajasthan	19727
21.	Sikkim	525
22.	Tamil Nadu (1-1-90)	37955
23.	Tripura	1531
24.	Uttar Pradesh (1-1-86)	34267
25.	West Bengal (1-1-90)	46462
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	706
27.	Chandigarh	1500
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	50
29.	Daman & Diu	100
30.	Delhi (1-1-90)	8926
	Lashadeep	70
32.	Pondicherry	2462
	Total	415628

Registered Medical Practitioners in Allopathy

1406. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of registered medical practitioners in Allopathy in the country with M.B.B.S. qualifications, as on 1st April, 1992;

(b) the number of registered medical practitioners engaged in actual clinical practice including those teaching in hospitals; and

(c) the number of registered medical practitioners engaged in non-clinical work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) As per information available with the Medical Council of India, the total number of registered medical practitioners in Allopathy in the country with the medical qualifications included in the schedules to the IMC Act, 1956 as on 1st April, 1992 is 4,14,960.

(b) and (c) No such information is compiled by Medical Council of India.

Indenting of medicines in C.G.H.S. Unani Dispensaries

1407. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the event of non-availability of any medicine in CGHS allopathic dispensaries, the same is indented from Super Bazar/Local chemists and supplied to the beneficiaries in two-three days and that in case of emergency, authority slip is given to the beneficiary to procure the medicine from Super Bazar/Local chemist without any payment;

(b) if so, whether such arrangements exist in C.G.H.S. Unani dispensaries also;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken in this regard ?